

## THE ARGUS.

Published daily at 1624 Second avenue, Rock Island, Ill. (Entered at the postoffice at Rock Island, Ill., as second-class matter, under the act of March 3, 1879).

BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

Rock Island Member Associated Press, Full Leased Wire Report.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Telephones in all departments. Central Union, Rock Island 145, 146 and 147.



Wednesday, July 5, 1916.

## Rock Island—From River to River.

Well, it was a great day for the candidates anyway.

They are seeking to influence the owners of unprofitable lands in New England to take up sheep raising. The sheep can pick up a living between the crevices of the rocks where nothing else can be produced. And New England is a great market for mutton and wool.

Italy is exhibiting to the world a new type of ship, equipped with railroads, tunnels and elevators for handling the cargo. In these days of efficiency and higher cost of handling the world is driven to the greatest economies in labor saving.

While Roosevelt, at Elwell and bluster for blood in Mexico President Wilson sits calmly steady, hourly bringing the situation closer to an amicable adjustment without use of arms, and without loss of honor or prestige to the United States.

Exhibitions of fireworks such as were in evidence on Second avenue Monday and Tuesday nights did not tend to prove that the participants were any more patriotic than their less demonstrative neighbors. Too, life and property were menaced by the abandon with which the explosives were thrown about. The police authorities should have called a halt.

The First Vermont regiment of militia, now on its way to the border, has two college presidents among its officers. Its colonel is Colonel Ira L. Reeves, of Norwich university, and its chaplain is President John B. Thomas, of Middlebury college. These two college presidents are heavily speeded on their way by Dr. Guy Potter Benton, president of the University of Vermont. As the Boston Transcript says, pacifism appears to be at an extremely low ebb in the educational institutions of Vermont.

Hetty Green was known as the richest woman in the world when she died the other day. She was left a large fortune by her father. She withdrew from society because it interfered with her money making affairs. She knew the art of building a fortune. She worshiped the almighty dollar. She cared for nothing else. She piled up close to a hundred million during her long life. Measuring success by money standards, Hetty Green fulfilled her ambition, though she failed to get those pleasures out of life that come through unselfish service to humanity.

Carranza, it appears, only spoils for a fight when he sees little immediate danger of one. With United States troops rushing to the border by thousands in preparation for war, the head of the Mexican government abandons his belligerent attitude towards the United States and instead of threatening, as he has done in previous communications, he talks pacifically, and indicates a desire to cooperate with Washington in any measure that will assure the safety of Americans in Mexico and prevent further raids across the border. President Wilson can't do other than assume that the Mexican chief means what he says, but in the meantime the border mobilization will continue.

## IN AID OF FARMER.

Democratic deeds, in the interest of the American farmer, as contrasted with republican inactivity or empty promises, are strikingly analyzed by the St. Louis Republic in the following survey of what has been accomplished under the Wilson administration.

"The country's greatest business is that of farming. More money is invested in farms than in railroads or factories. Yet near to 50 years of republican domination in the field of federal government went by without any attempt on the part of the government to take any account of the farmer's business problems, except to try to persuade him that he was benefited by a tariff on wheat, potatoes, etc., which never operated at all—on account of our great surplus of these products—except when our crops failed and it became necessary for the farmer to buy seed corn abroad, in which case he paid the tariff himself.

"Today the democracy has been in power for three short years. It has formulated a program of agricultural legislation consisting of eight items. It began with the intention of giving the farmers of the United States the opportunity to borrow money for short terms on nonperishable agricultural products. This is theirs through the federal reserve act.

"A system of farm agents to develop agriculture. This was accomplished through the Smith-Lever act, which is harmonious operation in 45 states, state and federal authorities cooperating perfectly.

"A division of markets in the department of agriculture. This is today a reality. For the first time in the history of the nation, machinery is at work to organize the distributing agencies through which 100,000,000 people get their food supply.

"A rural credits act. This has now passed both houses of congress and is in conference.

A cotton standards act. This is already law. It establishes definite

standards for the grading of cotton, so that buyers may be protected and commercial paper secured by warehouse cotton may be bankable everywhere.

A grain grades act. This will do a similar service for grain, making one set of grades for the nation, so that buyers and sellers may know exactly what they are dealing in and warehouse certificates may mean the same thing everywhere. The bill is now in congress.

A permissive warehouse law. A bill is now before congress providing for government supervision of warehouses, where desired, so that the purchaser of commercial paper secured by their warehouse certificates may know that the products named in the certificate are in storage, are safe against deterioration, and are of the quality certified.

A federal good roads law, providing for cooperation between state and nation, after the precedent set in the Smith-Lever act, in the construction of good roads. The bill is an admirable one, and is now in conference.

This program is before the American people. Enough of it has been put through already to enable the public to judge of its practical character and sanity. Its different parts hang together like the links in a suit of chain mail. In view of its character, what are the deserts of the party which has originated it, and realized a great part of it at the hands of the American farmer?

## NEW USE FOR POLICEMEN.

"The new police idea is to present law as a protector, to show conclusively that crime is a crime deterrent, and if ever permanent," says a comment on the constructive policy which Commissioner Woods has introduced into the New York system.

Thus, one by one, modern theories about crime and criminals reach the experimental stage.

The literature of criminology has increased enormously in the past 25 years, and the better housing, feeding, disciplining and educating of convicted men has received a limited amount of intelligent attention.

But the notion that a city's police system can be used for anything except to trap and arrest offenders is quite foreign to the popular education and experience of the people.

For this reason, Commissioner Woods is now sending officers into schools and other places where children are assembled to explain to the city residents the plan to cover any sickness, accident or death not covered by the workmen's compensation act of the state, and it applies to all month.

Up to the time of the famous Becker trial, such a police program would only have amused Gotham. But the revelations of political corruption made in that day humiliated New York, the nation, and prepared the city to welcome a sincere reformer like Woods.

There's many another proud town in its for eating this humble pie some day, and it is not only a reformed police force which some places need.

Genuine pride in civic welfare is what this plan is based on, and the knowledge of what is "against the law." Probably the best way of spreading this information is the New York plan of sending out a few police officers to do a little teaching once in a while.

## HEALTH INSURANCE.

The first American bill to establish compulsory health insurance for workers has just been offered in Massachusetts.

Modelled after the systems now in use in Germany and Great Britain the Massachusetts plan will cover any sickness, accident or death not covered by the workmen's compensation act of the state, and it applies to all month.

Benefits to insured members will include medical, surgical and nursing attendance, medicine and hospital supplies cash benefit for a maximum of 26 weeks in a year and a limited funeral benefit.

The cost is divided into three parts. 20 per cent to be assumed by the state, while the remaining 80 per cent is to be divided equally between employers and insured employees.

The figures quoted in the following statement by Representative Chandler, sponsor of the bill, drive home, better than words, the need of this sort of legislation.

"Sickness is the principal cause of both destitution and poverty. All workers have on an average, at least nine days of sickness in the year. According to statistics 43.5 per cent of 693,571 industrial workers of Massachusetts receive less than \$10 per week. On this wage, it is easily seen that the worker himself cannot adequately provide for the exigencies of sickness."

## LIVING COST.

Chicago government contractors need not serve as pretext for another rise in meat prices. It was expected early in July in any case. After a 10-year increase of 64 per cent for steaks, roasts, pork chops, bacon and ham, and a 56 per cent rise for fowls, this is a moderate, but it must be borne in mind that Europe is our situation. We are, calling to the colors not millions of men but tens of thousands. It is idle to suppose that the conditions of daily living need be made harder for those left behind because three persons out of every thousand may be drawn to the border and develop a better appetite.

So if any one makes the war an excuse for burdening the consumer with heavier prices, it may be assumed that somewhere there is greed deserving a stern rebuke.

## An Authority.

Peter McArthur, the writer, was once talking with a friend when he quoted another man as a financial authority. His friend disputed the right of the person quoted to be considered an expert. Mr. McArthur insisted that the man had a right to speak like an oracle.

"What is your definition of an authority?" asked the friend.

"My idea of an authority," retorted Mr. McArthur, "is a person who bluffs beyond my limit."

## AMERICAN RAILWAY PROBLEMS

BY HERBERT B. FULLER.

(This is the first of a series of three articles by Herbert B. Fuller on the transportation problems of the United States. Mr. Fuller is an authority on matters pertaining to the railroads. He is the author of "The Act to Regulate Commerce," "Accident and Employers' Liability Insurance," and several historical works.—The Editor.)

The complete dependence of this country upon its transportation facilities commands public interest in the problems which today confront the railroads of the United States. For a generation our railroads have been the object of popular prejudice. This has been the result partly of the manipulation of railroads by stock speculators, partly of the hostility generally felt toward public service corporations and partly of the agitation of certain types of politicians who have sought to capitalize all forms of social unrest.

As a result of this situation we have seen the enactment of a vast volume of ill-considered, unscientific and even penal railroad legislation. The railroads are subject to the varying control of 49 different agencies—the national government and each of the 48 different states—all having their own standards of control. The duplications, the waste and the extravagance caused by the laws of these multitudinous policies actually cost the railroad companies of the country millions of dollars. In an effort to obey the laws of one state the railroads are forced to violate the statutes of an adjoining state.

An illustration of this situation is found in the Arkansas law which compels railroads to place screens in all car windows in order to protect passengers from the malarial mosquito. In the adjoining state of Oklahoma window screens are forbidden by law. Three states make it illegal for any railroad company having repair shops in the state to send any of their equipment into other states for repairs. Twenty states have enacted hours-of-service laws varying from 10 to 16 hours; 20 states have enacted full-crew laws; 28 states have conflicting headlight laws; 14 states have enacted different types of safety-appliance acts. Many states have by legislation attempted to secure preferential treatment for their intra-state traffic.

The greatest burdens of the American railroads today arise from the unjust obligations imposed upon them by special legislation dealing with every conceivable subject. For instance, in the year 1915, in the various states, there were in the result 1,097 bills were introduced for the purpose of regulating railroads. Of these 137 became laws. In 1913, 230 railroad laws were enacted in the United States. These laws were not the offspring of necessity or even of study. Many of them were the result of prejudice and antipathy. A great amount of this legislation is inspired not by the dictates of public convenience but apparently for the purpose of com-

## LOWER CALIFORNIA

Lower California, about which there have been many conflicting reports since the relations between the United States and Mexico reached a crisis, is the subject of a war geography bulletin issued by the National Geographic society from Washington. Lower California, a land of calm, romance and thrilling adventure, is one of the most sparsely settled regions of the Mexican republic. It has an area corresponding in size to that of the Atlantic coast peninsula of Florida, but with nearly seven hundred miles more coast line, owing to its extreme length of 700 miles. It has more than fourteen times as many people. Varying in width from 30 to 150 miles, Lower California is a rugged, barren strip of land with a mountainous backbone largely of volcanic origin. For nearly two hundred years after its discovery by the Spaniards it was thought to be an island.

The southern portion of the peninsula has some rain, but the northern section is dry and arid, producing cereals, tobacco, grapes, cassava and sugar cane only after being thoroughly irrigated. The mineral resources are valuable and include gold, silver, copper, salt, gypsum, turquoise, opals and garnets are profitably mined. The silver mines of La Paz were worked by the Jesuits as early as 1700, three years after the famous padre, Salva-tierra, established the first permanent Spanish settlement in the land. Lower California owes its early exploration at the hands of Cortez's lieutenants to the fact that the region was supposed to be the home of a wonderful race of sirens and amazons whose majestic cities were paved with gold. In writing to his sovereign in 1524 the conqueror of Mexico said: "They tell me that Ciguatan is an island inhabited by women without any men, although at certain times they are visited by men from the mainland, and if the women bear female children they are protected, but if males they are driven from society. They also tell me that it is very rich in pearls and gold, respecting which I shall labor to obtain the truth and give your majesty a full account of it."

The name California is derived neither from Ciguatan, by which the region was known to Cortez, nor from Calda Fornax (Hot Oven), the apt descriptive phrase employed by some of the early explorers. The name was used in "Las Sergas de Esplandian," a widely read Spanish romance of Cortez's day, to designate "an island on the right hand of the Indies very near the terrestrial paradise." Some commentators suggest that this name was adopted in derision for the barren shores and desolate black mountains of the peninsula could hardly have suggested elysian fields to those seeking fertile valleys and treasure cities.

The magnificent Magdalena bay, on whose protected waters 40 miles long and 2 miles wide, the Pacific Ocean, the American navy have conducted their target practice in recent years, was discovered by Francisco de Ulloa in 1539 while on a voyage of exploration seeking the pearls and gold of the "amazons."

Lower California has two capitals—La Ensenada, with a population of 2,000, 65 miles from San Diego, Cal., and La Paz, with 5,000 people, many of whom earn a livelihood from the port's pearl fisheries which are among the most important in the world.

In addition to its pearl oysters, the waters of Lower California yield sponges, tortoiseshell, sperm and gray-back whales, while in the bayous and river mouths of the east coast many alligators are to be found.

## FORGETS OLD SOLDIERS

Whatever may be the truth as to the ingratitude of republics, the ingratitude of republicans, measured by their platform, is an undeniable fact.

Surely there was never a time in the history of the country when the old soldiers who imperiled their lives in the national defense should have had their claims so clearly remembered as now. At a time when every energy is being bent toward the stimulation of patriotism and preparedness, it is a striking fact that the republican party should go on record in favor of allowing pensions for past services to lapse, so far as the official platform voices anything to the contrary.

A government which does not make proper provision for the declining years of those who risked death that the republic might live would hardly be in a position to ask similar sacrifices for the future. And yet in this crucial hour, when national defense is the rallying cry of every patriotic American, the republican convention at Chicago, after days of effort to nullify the splendid Americanism of President Wilson, utterly neglected even to mention the old soldiers who had upheld the Americanism of the past.

There was no such neglect on the part of the democratic convention. The youth and manhood of today will find an incentive to national service in the democratic party's substantial gratitude for the sacrifices of the past.



Herbert B. Fuller.

pulling the railroads to employ the largest possible number of operatives. A very prevalent fallacy in the United States is the belief that a railroad treasury is perennial and exhaustless; that money expended by railroads is a burden to no one. Generally speaking, the only source of income enjoyed by a railroad is found in its rates of transportation which in turn are paid by the shipping and receiving public. This fallacy explains a large percentage of the volume of indefensible railroad legislation.

Moreover various state railroad commissions by their orders and decrees in reducing intra-state rates to unreasonable levels have sought to discriminate against the traffic of other states in order to preserve their own state markets.

The first essential to the proper control of railroads in the United States is the unification of control in one body. Federal regulation of railroads is highly desirable, both for the public and for the railroads themselves. Federal legislation, the federal regulation has been both unscientific and unsuccessful. The national government should extend the scope of its regulation so far as it possibly can under the grants of the commerce clause of the constitution. State regulation should be confined solely to questions of a purely local character. Moreover, our railroads need more constructive legislation and less legislation which is either patently destructive or avowedly penal.

## CHORDS AND DISCORDS

## DREAMING.

When heat waves blur the city's street  
And every sun-baked wall,  
I think of slopes where winds are sweet,  
And where the wild birds call;  
And clover runs before a breeze  
As the seas billow go,  
And, higher than a baby's knees  
The purple blossoms blow.

I breathe beneath the peeling ray  
The breath of forests cool  
On windy slopes of yesterday,  
And by a shaded pool,  
In golden-dappled shade I lie,  
And hear the wild birds sing;  
And through green boughs watch the blue sky,  
And drink out of a spring.

Out of a spring, which bubbles cold  
And brings up silver sand,  
Beside a beech tree known of old  
In youth's enchanted land,  
In youth's enchanted land, in truth,  
'Tis an enchanted way  
In which we used to walk with youth  
In the far yesterday.

Could we have everlasting youth—  
If years came not at all—  
Youth would be tiresome, and in truth,  
The ways of youth would pall!  
And we should sigh for other ways,  
And things we never had known:  
The greatest charm of youthful days  
Come when those days have flown.

—JUD MORTIMER LEWIS.

## Sob Stuff.

I have no phone and our buggy pony died with the terrible disease that many horses died with, then some bad boys, two years ago last Christmas, stole out our buggy and tore it completely to shreds, and nearly killed the other horse, Maud, as everybody knows her, so you see I have to collect news as best I can.—Hope (Ark.) Star of Hope.

## Law Unmasks Hero.

Bud Tenny went south Saturday and returned home Sunday. We concluded from the charges on his return that he had crossed the border into Mexico, but we learned from the constable, Solon Roberts, who was up Monday from Malch to see Bud on business, that it was just an ordinary fight.—Newport (Ark.) Independent.

## Keeping Close to Their Work.

Fleming and Stitzer, who are road builders and highway men, built the jail—Oatman (Ariz.) Miner.

## Genius Knows Its Limitations.

Wanted to Rent—By quiet, unobtrusive couple, plebeians, three connecting rooms (preferably downstairs), furnished housekeeping, except bedding and linen; private or convenient bath; near an owl car line; man works at night. Not ambitious socially; not interested in reasons for taking roomers; prominent relatives; illustrious ancestors; or neighbors' affairs.—Adv. in the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial-Tribune.

## Too Much.

One of the Scottish golf club gives a dinner each year to the youngsters it employs as caddies. At the feast last year one of the boys disdained to use any of the forks he found at his place and loaded his food into himself with his knife. When the ice cream course was reached and he still used his knife, a boy who sat opposite to him, and who could stand it no longer, shouted: "Great Scott! Look at Skinny, using his iron all the way round!"—Tit-Bits.

## Beaches.

Beaches are stretches of land bordered on one side by the ocean and on the other side by summer hotels and amusement concessions. Beaches are covered by sand, pebbles, seaweed, ocean breezes, rude staves and bathing girls. The waves of the sea touch the beach on the other side and the hotels and amusement schemes touch those who visit the beach on the other side. Love is frequently made upon the beach, but it is seldom any more enduring than any other house which is reared upon sands. Some people visit the beaches because they enjoy the ocean breezes. Many people visit the beaches because they have nothing to do and because they know that there is less than nothing to do on a beach, and because they are sure that they can find any number of idle people to help them do it. Other people visit the beaches because they have nothing to wear, and because they know that next to nothing is worn on a beach, and because they are sure they will find any number of idle people wearing next to nothing.—Life.

## One Way Out.

One of the congregation of a church not far from Boston approached her pastor with the complaint that she was greatly disturbed by the unmelodious singing of one of her neighbors. "It's positively unbearable!" she said. "That man in the pew in front of us spoils the service for me. His voice is harsh and he has no idea of a tune. Can't you ask him to change his pew?"

The good pastor was sorely perplexed. After a few moments' reflection, he said, "Well, I naturally would feel a little delicacy on that score, especially as I should have to tell him why I asked it. But I'll tell you what I might do." Here his face became illuminated by a happy thought. "I might ask him to join the choir."—Harper's Magazine.

## Efficiency.

Prayer meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Johnson Wednesday night. We can't say how large a crowd was present, because the writer was not there.—Junction City (Ark.) Herald.

## As Youth Should Be.

The dance was absolutely the best one ever given under the direction of any Phoenix high school class. The music was fine, the crowd was congenial and everything was covered with sang froid.—Phoenix (Ariz.) Gazette.

## Women Can Plow Now.

Garden making is now on. Remember we can supply you with bulk garden seeds, garden tools, lady broke garden plows. McCarrall & Hitch—Vandalia (Mo.) Mail.

J. M. C.

## HEALTH TALKS

BY WILLIAM BRADY, M.D.

## WHEN THE BABY HAS COLIC.

Sudden violent crying, accompanied by drawing up of the legs and distension of the abdomen, is fairly good evidence that the baby has pain in the abdomen, most often due to colic. But in most instances when our irascible friends, the "old women," accuse the baby of having colic, he has nothing of the kind. There are lots of other things which may make the baby cry and squirm and stiffen out and excite the whole household. Temper will do so, in babies more than 4 months old; earache, wet clothes, dislocated hip, hunger, condensed milk and similar inadequate foods, scurvy, rickets, an irritation or itching of the skin from excessive clothing and want of a tepid bath and back rub—you must eliminate all these possible things before you can say the baby has colic.

Improper feeding is the cause of colic. The food may contain too much protein, too little fat condensed and milk, too much condensed milk and too much milk and various so-called "infant foods," or the feeding may be irregular, or at too frequent intervals, and especially the habit of feeding whenever the baby cries. One prolific cause of colic, which we are happy to say is passing with the heathenish custom of lulling, is any one who would take up a baby that has just dined and try to churn the poor little unfortunate into indigestion is what we call an enemy to the race.

The first aid for colic is heat. A large hot moist compress may be applied to the abdomen, covered with a dry flannel, but the heat must not be sufficient to burn. The safest and perhaps the best internal remedy is a teaspoonful or a tablespoonful of mineral oil—pure liquid petrolatum, sold under a score of different trade names, giving qualities?

Answer—Practically none. Gelatine is of value as an albumin sparer if taken with other food, but it would not sustain life itself.

Gelatinase as Food.

Answer—Sometimes blowing or murmuring sounds are heard in the ear in a case of exophthalmic goitre. The hearing would not be injured.

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